

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5**

DATE: June 1, 2007

SUBJECT: Reports of Significant Developments and Activities
Ending on May 25, 2007

FROM: Richard C. Karl, Director
Superfund Division

TO: Mary A. Gade
Regional Administrator

Bharat Mathur
Deputy Regional Administrator

The activities listed below are organized by site-specific activities, training/conferences, and stakeholder feedback:

SITE-SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES

Emergency Response, Tanker Truck Accident, Newark Township, Ohio

On May 23, 2007, United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) Mark Durno responded to an oil spill release in Newark Township, Ohio, at the request of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA). A tanker truck had driven off a road into the Raccoon Creek and exploded upon impact. The gasoline carrier was estimated to have been carrying up to 6,000 gallons of gasoline and 2,400 gallons of diesel fuel at the time of the accident. While multiple local and County agencies responded to the scene, the Ohio EPA initiated oil spill recovery efforts with a local environmental contractor. OSC Mark Durno participated in discussions with the potentially responsible party (PRP) and assisted with initial recovery efforts on Raccoon Creek. It is believed that the majority of the gasoline and diesel were consumed in the fire. However, a thin oil film/sheen was present on approximately 3,000 feet of Creek. The PRP financed the response efforts, with Ohio EPA providing long-term oversight of the cleanup.

Contact: Mark Durno (440-250-1743)

Settlement Reached, Snappy Apple Farms, Inc., Casnovia, Michigan

On May 23, 2007, the Agency filed a joint Administrative Complaint and Consent Agreement and Final Order against Snappy Apple Farms, Inc., Casnovia, Michigan. This action alleges violations of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act Section 312. Snappy Apple Farms, Inc., failed to submit the Emergency and Hazardous Chemical Inventory form to the State Emergency Response Commission, the Local Emergency Planning Committee, and the local fire department with jurisdiction over the facility for calendar years 2002-2004, by the March 1 deadline. Snappy Apple Farms, Inc., has agreed to pay a cash penalty of \$7,919.00 and to perform a supplemental environmental project valued at \$4,581.00. The project will be to purchase emergency response equipment and donate the equipment to the Casnovia Fire Department. Snappy Apple Farms, Inc., will have 30 days to pay the penalty and until September 30, 2007, to complete the project.

Contact: James Entzminger (312-886-4062)

Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act Inspections, Aluma-Tec Industries, Waukesha, and Wisconsin Hardcoat, Inc., Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin

On May 16, 2007, George Rancich and William Sandstrom of the Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Section (CEPPS) conducted two Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) Compliance Inspections in Wisconsin. The facilities inspected were Aluma-Tec Industries in Waukesha, and Wisconsin Hardcoat, Inc., in Menomonee Falls. The inspections were conducted to determine if the facilities have hazardous chemical storage reporting requirements under EPCRA 312 and to determine their compliance with those requirements. The findings of the inspections will be reviewed by CEPPS enforcement staff to determine if any follow up action is appropriate.

Contacts: George Rancich (312-886-6148)
William Sandstrom (312-886-6028)

TRAINING/CONFERENCES**Joint Lucas/Wood County Local Emergency Planning Committee
Exercise, Monclova, Ohio**

On May 19, 2007, On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs) Jon Gulch and James Justice represented the U.S. EPA's Emergency Response Branch 1 on a full-scale exercise at the Johns-Manville Plant in Monclova, Lucas County, Ohio. Various State, County, and local agencies also participated. The objective of the exercise was to test the Lucas County Incident Command Structure, emergency notifications, emergency response capability of the local fire departments, and the proficiency of the Lucas County Response Plan. The scenario included an accident and release of several thousand gallons of urea formaldehyde and benzoyl chloride from tanker trucks to the Maumee River. Also included in the scenario was a fire that produced a chemical plume that impacted Wood County, Ohio.

Contacts: Jon Gulch (734-692-7686)
James Justice (734-692-7687)

**Meeting, Northwest Ohio Environmental Response Planning Area,
Toledo, Ohio**

On May 16-17, John Elkmann (Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Section) and Jon Gulch (Emergency Response Section 1) met with a group in Toledo, Ohio, concerned with a 22-County area in northwest Ohio that has been designated as an Environmental Response Planning Area. Also present were representatives from Lucas County. The main topic of discussion at the meeting involved disparate databases. These included: 1) Facility Tier II chemical inventory data and associated chemical emergency planning data, collected under Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA), 2) what is available in U.S. EPA's and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA's) CAMEO program, and 3) other data useful to the planning process, but which is available only as ArcGIS files. It was agreed that Lucas County would serve as a prototype model for all Counties in the planning area. Mr. Elkmann will continue to work with County representatives to develop a data model suitable for use throughout the planning area. Mr. Elkmann also attended a meeting of the Lucas County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) during this trip, during which attendees gave strong approval of the above-discussed data review.

Contact: John Elkmann (312-353-8196)

CERCLA/EPCRA and RMP National Enforcement Conference, St. Petersburg, Florida

On May 15-17, 2007, Greg Chomycia, Silvia Palomo, and Ruth McNamara attended the annual Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act/Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (CERCLA/EPCRA) and Risk Management Planning (RMP) enforcement conference held in St. Petersburg, Florida. CERCLA/EPCRA items discussed included: upcoming rulemaking on combined animal feeding operations, proposed EPCRA streamlining rules, public access to information and the Sunshine Project, Office of Emergency Management (OEM) Core Program Review, Logic Models, and enforcement priorities. RMP items discussed included: a presentation on the root cause chemical investigation conducted by Region 1 for the explosion which occurred in Danversport, Massachusetts, the status of each Region regarding dealing with bringing RMP facilities that have not filed their required updates into compliance, and enforcement priorities.

Contacts: Silvia Palomo (312-353-2172)
Greg Chomycia (312-353-8217)
Ruth McNamara (312-353-3193)

ICIS Federal Enforcement & Compliance 2007 National Meeting, McLean, Virginia

On May 15-17, 2007, Pat Slawniak attended the Integrated Compliance Information System (ICIS) 2007 National Meeting held in McLean, Virginia. Meeting attendees included staff from Booz Allen & Hamilton (host), ICIS Program Managers from U.S. EPA Headquarters, and ICIS users representing all 10 U.S. EPA Regions. A major highlight of the meeting was a training session on writing ad hoc reports using Business Objects reporting software. One of the most significant announcements of the meeting was related to the End-of-year Certification Timeline. The time between the end of fiscal 2007 (September 30) and the final data pull of 2007 (October 13) has been shortened to 10 working days. It was noted that data entered late will not be accepted. Regional ICIS users stated the 10-day period will actually be shorter due to the fact that both Regional Enforcement and Regional Division offices will each shave off a couple of days for review of the 2007 data prior to certification. To insure that all 2007 enforcement and compliance monitoring activities are counted, users were encouraged to see that all work is completed and all data is

entered well in advance of the October 12, 2007, data entry deadline.

Contact: Pat Slawniak (312-886-2840)

Meeting, Federal Emergency Management Agency Regional Interagency Steering Committee Mitigation Sub-Committee, Chicago, Illinois

On May 23, 2007, Glenn Cekus (Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Section) represented Region 5 at the Federal Emergency Management Agency Regional Interagency Steering Committee Mitigation Sub-Committee meeting, which was held in the Chicago office of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Other participants included representatives from FEMA, other Federal agencies, and Region 5 States. The meeting presented U.S. Geologic Service geo-referencing initiatives, a Red Cross presentation on wind storm resistant homes, and updates from other participants. Mr. Cekus provided an update on the recent Region 5 Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) exercise, Response Support Corps training, the upcoming Spills of National Significance (SONS) exercise, and an initiative to geo-locate Risk Management Plan facilities in tribal lands.

Contact: Glenn Cekus (312-353-6449)

Training (Tribal Government Employees), New Federal Rule Affects Tribal Property Transfers, Bois Forte Reservation, Minnesota

On May 22, 2007, Jane Neumann provided training to 32 tribal government employees on the new U.S. EPA brownfields rule on All Appropriate Inquiries (AAI). The training was part of a course on environmental assessment of properties, and is jointly sponsored by Bureau of Indian Affairs and the U.S. EPA. Tribes are significantly impacted by the new rule because Department of Interior (DOI) requires AAI-compliant assessments of properties that tribes want to have the Federal government take into trust on behalf of the tribe. Tribes in Region 5 currently have hundreds of fee-to-trust applications pending with DOI, so the new rule affects many transactions. Furthermore, the rule establishes some new procedures for environmental assessments, as well as required qualifications of the environmental professional who must sign the assessment report. Many tribal government staff do not meet the qualifications. The course, held on the Bois Forte Reservation in northern Minnesota, drew staff from tribes in Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota.

Contact: Jane Neumann (312-353-0123)

Clinton River Water Festival, Oakland University, Rochester Hills, Michigan

On May 17, 2007, On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs) James Justice, Brian Schlieger, and Michelle Jaster participated in the first Clinton River Water Festival at Oakland University in Rochester Hills, Michigan. Approximately 1,000 fifth-grade students from nineteen elementary schools in the Clinton River watershed attended the festival. Students and teachers attended a wide variety of presentations centered on water, its uses, and its critical importance to us and our environment. The OSCs delivered presentations to over 130 students throughout the day. These presentations focused on the role U.S. EPA plays in protecting the environment, emergency response work, and oil spill cleanups.

Contact: Michelle Jaster (734-692-7683)

STAKEHOLDER FEEDBACK

Thank You Letter (OSCs), University of Michigan-Dearborn, Michigan

Response Section 1 received a thank you letter for On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs) Michelle Jaster, Jon Gulch, and Brian Schlieger from Orin Gelderloos, Professor of Biology, University of Michigan-Dearborn. It states in part: "On behalf of the University of Michigan-Dearborn we would like to thank you for your participation as a Presenter at the 2007 Rouge River Water Festival. I was especially impressed with the interaction and active participation between presenters and students. You certainly motivated these fifth-graders to think more deeply about water and its role in our lives and our ecosystem. Your professional and personal commitment and dedication that you brought to your presentation is an inspiration not only to the fifth graders but to us at the University of Michigan-Dearborn as well. It is only with your participation and support that we can continue the Water Festival on an annual basis now moving towards its 11th year. This year, the Water Festival hosted a total of 2,782 participants from 45 elementary schools. We sincerely hope that you will join us again next year as a Presenter to continue this tradition of educating our children about the issues that will affect them. Again, thank you for your participation and stewardship of the Rouge River Watershed."

Contact: Jason El-Zein (734-692-7661)

cc: Susan Bodine (OSWER)
Scott Sherman (OSWER)
Barry Breen (OSWER)
Ed Chu (OSWER)
David Lopez (OSRTI)
Ernie Watkins (OSRTI)
Susan Bromm (OECA)
Catherine McCabe (OECA)
Barnes Johnson (OSRTI)
Dana Tulis (OEM)
Elizabeth Southerland (OSRTI)
Larry Zaragoza (OSRTI)
Debbie Dietrich (OEM)
Dana Tulis (OEM)
Craig Beasley (OEM)
Jim Woolford (OSRTI)
Gail Cooper (FFRRO)
Region 5 State Superfund Coordinators
Division/Office Directors